

1. (Amended) A method for treating nails [and adjacent tissues] comprising applying a composition comprising an effective, nail-enhancing amount of non-interlinked particles of bioactive glass to the nails for a suitable amount of time.

8. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the composition further includes one or more components selected from the group consisting of antibiotics, antivirals, antifungal agents, biotin, collagen, amino acids, proteins, vitamins, penetration enhancers, permeation/binding agents, dyes, and fragrances [and other cosmetically useful additives].

12. (Amended) The device of claim 11, further comprising one or more components selected from the group consisting of antibiotics, antivirals, antifungal agents, biotin, collagen, amino acids, proteins, vitamins, penetration enhancers, permeation/binding agents, dyes, and fragrances [and other cosmetically useful additives].

13. (Amended) A method of treating nails [and adjacent tissues] comprising applying the medicating device of claim 11 to the nails for a sufficient amount of time to form a layer of hydroxyapatite or other calcium phosphate minerals that is at least about 0.2 microns in thickness.

14. (Amended) A method for treating nails [and adjacent tissues] in mammals other than humans comprising applying a composition comprising an effective, nail-enhancing amount of non-interlinked particles of bioactive glass to the nails for a suitable amount of time.

16. (Amended) A method for treating nails [and adjacent tissues] comprising applying a composition comprising an effective, nail-enhancing amount of bioactive extract to the nails for a suitable amount of time.